Railway Doctors in the Guntakal Division

3348 DR. NARREDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be leased to state:

(a) what is the number of railway doctors in Guntakal division in the South Central Railway;

(b) whether Government propose to increase the number of railway doctors in the said division;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) 34.

(b) to (d) 29 additional beds have been sanctioned for the Guntakal Railway Hospital. The question of increasing number of doctors will arise when the work is completed.

Metre-gauge Railway track in the country

3349. SHRI YELLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a what is the length of metre gauge railway track in our country;

(b) what amount is needed for the conversion of the metre gauge tracks into broad gauge;

(c) what is the number of diesel metre-gauge locomotives available with the Railways; and

(d) what are the estimated savings from the reduced capital outlay on wagons and the additional recurring charges on the converted system?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Metre-gauge (as on 31-3-1988):

Total route Km.—23898.04

Total track Km—32575.97

(b) About Rs. 20,000 crores.

(c) 639, as on 31-3-1988.

(d) It is not possible to work out financial implications in such an assumed situation.

Railway Line between Karwar and Hubli

3350. SHRI J. P. JAVALI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at the time of laying the foundation stone of Project Sea Bird at Karwar, the Prime Minister had announced a railway line between Karwar and Hubli; and

(b) if so, what progress has been made so far in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Carrying of night-soil on head by scavengers in the Railways

3351. SHRI J. P. JAVALI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whehter the practice of carrying night-soil on head by scavengers working in the Railways is still existing in some parts of Karnataka and in some other States;

(b) whether this practice is existing both in the Railway establishments/stations and in the residential quarters/complexes; and